

00862.023295

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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|-----------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| In re Application of: |) | |
| HIROFUMI TAKEI | : | Examiner: Unassigned |
| |) | |
| Application No.: Unassigned | : | Group Art Unit: Unassigned |
| |) | |
| Filed: November 6, 2003 | : | |
| |) | |
| For: IMAGE PROCESSING | : | November 6, 2003 |
| APPARATUS AND METHOD | : | |

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed.

FOREIGN PATENTS:

| <u>Patent No.</u> | <u>Country</u> | <u>Publication Date</u> |
|-------------------|----------------|-------------------------|
| 2-301268 | Japan | 12/13/1990 |
| 11-313205 | Japan | 11/09/1999 |
| 7-162851 | Japan | 06/23/1995 |
| 2001-352524 | Japan | 12/21/2001 |

REMARKS

The JP '268 reference is cited at page 1 of the specification, the JP '205 reference is cited at page 2 of the specification, and the JP '851 reference and the JP '524 reference are cited at page 3 of the specification; each of these references is believed pertinent for the reasons set forth therein. English translations of the Japanese Patent documents are not readily available to Applicant's attorney, but may be provided if required by the Examiner. An English abstract obtained from a commercial database for each of the Japanese references also is submitted herewith as an English language statement of relevance for the Examiner's consideration.

FEE STATEMENT

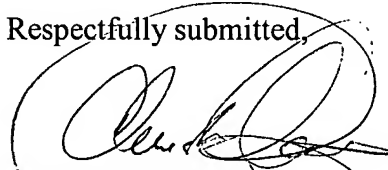
The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the present application, or prior to the mailing of an initial official action. Accordingly, Applicant believes that no fee is required. Nevertheless, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee necessitated by this paper to Deposit Account No. 06-1205.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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